

I claim:

- 1     1. A system for presenting information regarding products and services via a  
2     network of computers, the system comprising:
  - 3         a plurality of market databases registered with a cooperative communications  
4         network,
  - 5         an analytical agent for mining data related to a selected item from at least one of  
6         said plurality of market databases, said analytical agent further for generating a subset  
7         of data that most closely meets a preprogrammed goal,
    - 8             at least one of a seller's inter-agents in communication with said analytical agent
    - 9             for receiving said subset of data,
  - 10          said at least one of a seller's inter-agents for generating at least one showcase  
11          database based on said subset of data responsive to a set of seller's sales objectives,  
12          each showcase registered with a cooperative communications network, and  
13          a user interface for displaying information derived from said showcase database.
- 1     2. The system of claim 1, wherein:  
2         said plurality of market databases are commonly related to an industry.
- 1     3. The system of claim 1, wherein:  
2         said mining data comprises constantly monitoring said plurality of market  
3         databases, and generating an updated subset of data responsive to any change in said  
4         market databases.

1       4. The system of claim 3, wherein:

2              said at least one seller's inter-agent regenerates said at least one showcase

3              database in response to said updated subset of data.

1       5. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

2              a plurality of showcase databases commonly related to an industry.

1       6. The system of claim 1, wherein:

2              said showcase databases are registered with a UDDI register.

1       7. The system of claim 6, wherein:

2              said showcase databases employ a common extensible markup language.

1       8. The system for presenting information regarding products and services of claim

2       1, further comprising:

3              at least one buyer's intelligent negotiation agent for receiving information from

4              said showcase database regarding said selected item.

1       9. The system for presenting information regarding products and services of claim

2       1, further comprising:

3              at least one buyer's commercial search agent for searching said at least one

4 showcase databases for information regarding said selected item.

1 10. The system for presenting information regarding products and services of claim

2 1, further comprising:

3 at least one buyer's intelligent negotiation agent, and

4 at least one intelligent seller's negotiation agent in communication with said at

5 least one buyer's intelligent negotiation agent,

6 wherein when said at least one buyer's intelligent negotiation agent requests a

7 bid for sale of said selected item, at least two of said seller's intelligent negotiation

8 agents submit that bid to said at least one buyer's intelligent negotiation agent.

1 11. The system for presenting information regarding products and services of claim

2 1, wherein:

3 said preprogrammed goal comprises a set of buyer's specifications for a

4 selected item, said item being one of a plurality of individual product items and

5 individual service items.

1 12. The system for presenting information regarding products and services of claim

2 1, wherein:

3 said preprogrammed goal comprises a set of seller's sales objectives.

1 13. The system for presenting information regarding products and services of claim

2 1, wherein:

3 said analysis is performed by selecting one of a plurality of evolutionary

4 computation resources.

1 14. The system for presenting information regarding products and services of claim

2 13, wherein:

3 said plurality of evolutionary computation resources comprises genetic

4 algorithms.

1 15. The system for presenting information regarding products and services of claim

2 13, wherein:

3 said plurality of evolutionary computation resources comprises genetic

4 programming.

1 16. The system for presenting information regarding products and services of claim

2 13, wherein:

3 said plurality of evolutionary computation resources comprises neural networks.

1 17. The system for presenting information regarding products and services of claim

2 1, wherein:

3 said analytical agent constantly monitors said market data and generates said

4 subset of data anew for any change in said market data,

5           said seller's inter-agent generates said showcase database responsive to any  
6       change in said subset of data.

1       18. The system of claim 1, wherein:

2           said showcase database includes a discounted price for said selected item.

1       19. The system of claim 1, wherein:

2           said showcase database includes an option to upgrade features of said selected  
3       item.

1       20. The system of claim 1, wherein:

2           said showcase database includes an option to include additional services  
3       related to said selected item.

1       21. The system of claim 1, wherein:

2           said showcase database includes a quantity price discount for said selected  
3       item.

1       22. The system of claim 1, wherein:

2           said showcase database includes financing for procurement of said selected  
3       item.

- 1       23. The system of claim 1, wherein:  
2                  said showcase database includes warranties.
- 1       24. The system of claim 1, wherein:  
2                  said showcase database includes insurance.
- 1       25. The system of claim 1, wherein:  
2                  said showcase database includes a proximity marketing discount.
- 1       26. The system of claim 1, wherein:  
2                  said showcase database includes a yield management promotion.
- 1       27. The system of claim 1, further comprising:  
2                  a plurality of showcase databases registered with a cooperative communications  
3                  network for a common sales objective, and  
4                  each of said plurality of showcase databases having a data set dedicated to said  
5                  common sales objective.
- 1       28. The system of claim 17, wherein:  
2                  said showcase database comprises an object relational database.
- 1       29. A method for presenting information regarding products and services via a

2 network of computers, the method comprising:  
3 identifying a selected item, said item comprising one of a product or service,  
4 mining data related to said selected item from at least one of a plurality of market  
5 databases, each of said market databases registered with a cooperative  
6 communications network related to said selected item,  
7 invoking an intelligent analytical agent to analyze said data against a  
8 preprogrammed goal to generate a subset of data that most closely meets said goal,  
9 receiving said subset of data,  
10 generating a showcase database responsive to a set of seller's sales objectives,  
11 and  
12 displaying information derived from said showcase database on a user interface.

1 30. A method for creating a seller's showcase database which is accessible over a  
2 network of computers, the method comprising:  
3 obtaining market data related to a selected item from a market, said item being  
4 one of a product item or service item,  
5 analyzing said market data for conformity to a set of seller's sales objectives,  
6 and  
7 filtering said market data to create a seller showcase database reflecting the  
8 most favorable terms for sale of said selected item by said seller given said market  
9 data.

1       31. The method for creating a seller's showcase database of claim 30, further  
2 comprising:

3             constantly updating said seller showcase database with each change in said  
4 market data.

1       32. The method for creating a seller's showcase database of claim 12, further  
2 comprising:

3             accessing said market data from at least one of a plurality of vendor databases  
4 registered with a cooperative communications network,  
5             mining said market data for conformity with a set of parameters related to said  
6 item.

1       33. A system for configuring a seller's showcase in a distributed computing system,  
2 the system comprising:

3             a plurality of seller showcase databases, said showcase databases  
4 communicating in a distributed computing system,  
5             at least one seller's intelligent inter-agent for receiving and analyzing market  
6 data related to a selected item, said item comprising one of a product or service, said  
7 inter-agent for generating a configured subset of data for transmission to one of said  
8 plurality of showcase databases,  
9             said one showcase database for receiving said configured subset of data.

- 1       34. The system for configuring a seller's showcase of claim 33, wherein:
- 2              said subset of data is filtered for inclusion in said showcase database by
- 3              selecting said data to optimally satisfy a set of seller's sales objectives.
- 1       35. The system of claim 33, wherein:
- 2              said inter-agent for reconfiguring said subset of data in response to any change
- 3              in market data and for transmission of said reconfigured subset of data to said
- 4              showcase database, and
- 5              said showcase for receiving said reconfigured subset of data.
- 1       36. The system for configuring a seller's showcase of claim 33, further comprising:
- 2              an analytical agent for mining said market data from a market, said analytical
- 3              agent in communication with said seller's intelligent inter-agent.
- 1       37. The system for configuring a seller's showcase of claim 33, further comprising:
- 2              said showcase database including at least one contract contingency authorizing
- 3              a seller to pay a buyer a penalty if said seller elects to sell said selected item to another
- 4              buyer.
- 1       38. The system for configuring a seller's showcase of claim 33, further comprising:
- 2              an analytical agent for mining said market data from a market, said analytical

3 agent in communication with at least one of said plurality of seller showcase databases.

1 39. A method for configuring a seller's showcase in a distributed computing system,

2 the method comprising:

3 receiving market data related to a selected item, said item comprising one of a

4 product item or service item,

5 instructing a seller's intelligent inter-agent to analyze said market data,

6 generating a configured subset of data based on said analysis, and

7 generating one of a plurality of seller's showcase databases, said showcase

8 database including said configured subset of data.

1 40. The method of claim 39, further comprising:

2 reconfiguring said subset of data in response to any change in market data,

3 transmitting said reconfigured subset of data to said showcase database, and

4 replacing said subset of data by with said reconfigured subset of data such that

5 said showcase database is updated in response to changes in market data.

1 41. A system for analysis of data, said data resident in a distributed computing

2 network of sellers' commercial databases, the system comprising:

3 at least one of a plurality of intelligent analytical agents, said analytical agent for

4 mining data related to a selected item from at least one of a plurality of market

5 databases, said item one of a product item or service item, and said analytical agent for

6 generating a subset of data that most closely meets a goal.

1 42. The system for analysis of data of claim 1, further comprising:

2 said analytical agent for generating a report on said subset of data.

1 43. The system for analysis of data of claim 1, further comprising:

2 said analytical agent for synthesizing said data to develop a specific entity

profile.

44. The system for analysis of claim 41, wherein:

2 said analysis is performed using case-based reasoning.

45. The system for analysis of claim 41, wherein:

2 said analysis is performed using rule-based reasoning.

1 46. The system for analysis of claim 41, wherein:

2 said analysis is performed using neural networks

1 47. [deleted]

1 48. The system for data analysis of claim 41, wherein:

2 said analysis is performed using genetic programming.

1    49. The system for analysis of data of claim 41, further comprising:  
2                 a suite of artificial intelligence program resources, said suite of resources  
3                 accessible by said intelligent analytical agent, and  
4                 wherein said analytical agent selects one of said plurality of artificial intelligence  
5                 resources for optimal performance of a computation.

50. The system for analysis of data of claim 49, wherein:  
               said suite of artificial intelligence program resources comprises genetic  
programming.

51. The system for analysis of data of claim 49, wherein:  
               said suite of artificial intelligence program resources comprises genetic  
algorithms.

1    52. The system for analysis of data of claim 49, wherein:  
2                 said suite of artificial intelligence program resources comprises neural networks.

1    53. A method for analyzing data resident in a distributed computing network of  
2                 sellers' commercial databases, the method comprising:  
3                 mining data related to a selected item from a distributed computing network of  
4                 sellers' commercial databases, and generating a subset of data that most closely meets

5 a goal.

1 54. The method for analyzing data of claim 53, further comprising:  
2 generating a report on said subset of data.

1 55. The method for analyzing data of claim 53, further comprising:  
2 synthesizing said data to develop a specific entity profile.

1 56. The method for analyzing data of claim 53, wherein:  
2 said analysis is performed using neural networks.

1 57. [deleted]

1 58. The method for analyzing data of claim 53, wherein:  
2 said analysis is performed using genetic programming.

1 59. The system for procurement of claim 1, wherein:  
2 said at least one showcase database is configured according to item price.

1 60. The system for procurement of claim 1, wherein:  
2 said at least one showcase database is configured according to item location.

- 1 61. The system for procurement of claim 1, wherein:  
2       said at least one showcase database is configured according to item niche.
- 1 62. The system for procurement of claim 1, wherein:  
2       said at least one showcase database is configured according to item availability.
63. The system for procurement of claim 1, wherein:  
      said at least one showcase database is configured according to availability of  
items in bundles.
64. The system for procurement of claim 1, wherein:  
      said at least one showcase database is configured according to accountability of  
seller.
- 1 65. The system for procurement of claim 1, wherein:  
2       said at least one showcase database is configured according to seller  
3 experience.
- 1 66. The system for procurement of claim 1, wherein:  
2       said at least one showcase databases includes a contract contingency  
3 authorizing a seller to pay a buyer a penalty if said seller elects to sell said selected  
4 item to another than said buyer.

1    67. The system for procurement of claim 66, wherein:  
2                said mining data comprises constantly monitoring said plurality of market  
3                databases, and generating an updated subset of data responsive to any change in said  
4                market databases.

5    68. A computer program product comprising a machine readable medium on which  
6                is provided program instructions for performing a method for presenting information  
7                regarding products and services via a network of computers using computers that  
8                communicate over a network, the program instructions comprising:  
9                        program code for identifying a selected item, said item comprising one of a  
10                  product or service,  
11                        program code for mining data related to said selected item from at least one of a  
12                  plurality of market databases, each of said market databases registered with a  
13                  cooperative communications network related to said selected item,  
14                        program code for invoking an intelligent analytical agent to analyze said data  
15                  against a preprogrammed goal to generate a subset of data that most closely meets  
16                  said goal,  
17                        program code for receiving said subset of data,  
18                        program code for generating a showcase database responsive to a set of seller's  
19                  sales objectives, and  
20                        displaying information derived from said showcase database on a user interface.

1       69. A system for automated collaborative filtering using a computer that  
2       communicates over a distributed network, the system comprising:  
3               at least one seller's analytical agent,  
4               at least one buyer's commercial search agent in communication with said seller's  
5       analytical agent,  
6               wherein, when said commercial search agent transmits to said at least one  
7       seller's analytical agent a request by a buyer for information on a selected item, said  
8       item one of a plurality of product items and service items, said seller's analytical agent  
9       mines data related to said selected item from at least one of a plurality of market  
10      databases, filters said data against a profile of said buyer to prepare a list of at least  
11      one of a plurality of recommended items, and transmits to said buyer's commercial  
12      search agent said list of recommended items.

1       70. The system of claim 69, wherein:  
2               said filters said data comprises ranking each of said at least one of a plurality of  
3       recommended items consistent with said buyer's profile.

1       71. The system of claim 69, wherein:  
2               said filters said data comprises filtering by item type.

1       72. The system of claim 69, wherein:

2 said filters said data comprises filtering by item popularity.

1 73. The system of claim 69, wherein:

2 said filters said data comprises filtering by buyer's region.

1 74. The system of claim 69, wherein:

2 said filters said data comprises filtering by item quality.

1 75. The system of claim 69, wherein:

2 said filters said data comprises filtering by available services related to said  
3 item.

1 76. The system of claim 69, wherein:

2 said filters said data comprises filtering by potential for combining said item with  
3 other items to create a bundle.

1 77. The system of claim 69, wherein:

2 said filters said data comprises filtering by quantity of said items available.

1 78. The system of claim 69, wherein:

1 said filters said data comprises filtering by item price.

1       79. A method for automated collaborative filtering using computers that

2       communicate over a distributed network, the method comprising:

3               transmitting from an automated commercial search agent to said at least one

4       seller's analytical agent a request by a buyer for information on a selected item,

5               said selected item one of a plurality of individual product items and individual

6       service items,

7               said seller's analytical agent mining data related to said selected item from at

8       least one of a plurality of market databases,

9               said seller's analytical agent filtering said data against a profile of said buyer,

10       said seller's analytical agent preparing a list of at least one of a plurality of

11       recommended items, and

12               transmitting from said seller's analytical agent to said buyer's commercial

13       search agent said list of recommended items.

1       80. The method of claim 79, further comprising:

2               ranking each of said recommended items according to a buyer's profile.

1       81. The method of claim 79, further comprising:

2               filtering said data by item type.

1       82. The method of claim 79, further comprising:

2               filtering said data by item popularity.

1       83. The method of claim 79, further comprising:

2              filtering said data by buyer's region.

1       84. The method of claim 79, further comprising:

2              filtering said data by item quality.

1       85. The method of claim 79, further comprising:

2              filtering said data by available services related to said item.

1       86. The method of claim 79, further comprising:

2              filtering said data by potential for combining said item with other items to create  
3              a bundle.

1       87. The method of claim 79, further comprising:

2              filtering said data by quantity of said items available.

1       88. The method of claim 79, further comprising:

2              comprises filtering said data by item price.

1       89. The system of claim 1, further comprising:

2              a buyer's intelligent agent for receiving information regarding at least one

1 selected item from at least one of a plurality of seller's inter-agents and for sending  
2 information regarding said selected item to said least one seller's inter-agents, said  
3 selected item being one of a group of individual product items and individual service  
4 items,

5 at least one buyer's input device in communication with said buyer's inter-agent,  
6 said buyer's input device for identifying a list of at least two sellers of said selected  
7 item,

8 said at least one of a plurality of seller's inter-agents for receiving information  
9 regarding said selected item from said buyer's inter-agent and for sending information  
10 regarding said selected item to said buyer's inter-agent, each of said plurality of sellers'  
11 agents representing a seller of said selected item, and

12 wherein, when said list of sellers is received by said buyer's inter-agent, said  
13 buyer's inter-agent and said seller's inter-agents representing said at least two sellers  
14 engage in an exchange of information regarding said selected item.

1 90. The system for exchanging information of claim 89, wherein:

2 said at least one of a plurality of seller's intelligent agents comprises at least two  
3 of said plurality of seller's intelligent agents.

1 91. The system for exchanging information of claim 89, wherein:

2 said buyer's inter-agent transmits a list of buyer's minimally acceptable  
3 specifications to said seller's intelligent agents, and

4           said seller's intelligent agents transmit responses to said buyer's inter-agent  
5           stating the availability of said selected item with said buyer's minimally acceptable  
6           specifications from the sellers represented by said seller's intelligent agents.

1       92.   The system for exchanging information of claim 91, wherein:  
2           said at least one showcase database comprising said list of buyer's minimally  
3           acceptable specifications.

1       93.   A system for presenting information regarding products and services via a  
2           network of computers, the system comprising:  
3            a plurality of market databases,  
4            at least one seller's inter-agent for mining data related to a selected item from at  
5            least one of said plurality of market databases, said at least one seller's inter-agent  
6            further for generating a subset of data that most closely meets a preprogrammed goal,  
7            at least one showcase database in communication with said seller's inter-agent,  
8            said at least one showcase database including said subset of data, said showcase  
9            database further configured to satisfy a set of seller's sales objectives, and  
10           a user interface in communication with said showcase database for displaying  
11           information derived from said showcase database.

1       94.   The system of claim 93, wherein:  
2           said at least one showcase database comprises a plurality of showcase

1        databases,

2                the system further comprising a cooperative communications network including

3        said plurality of showcase databases, said plurality of showcase databases commonly

4        related to an industry.

1        95.      The system of claim 1, wherein:

2                said at least one showcase database comprises a plurality of showcase

3        databases,

4                the system further comprising a cooperative communications network including

5        said plurality of showcase databases, said plurality of showcase databases commonly

6        related to an industry.